

SURFACE TRACKER

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A surface tracker includes a tubular marker body having an interior electronic
5 marker and a visual indicator attached to an upper end of the marker body which extends
away from the marker body. When deployed, the marker body is mostly underground
and the visual indicator extends upwardly from the ground level to provide above-ground
visual recognition. The electronic marker may be a passive electronic marker that
10 includes a ferrite core assembly having a longitudinal axis which is generally parallel to a
longitudinal axis of the marker body. The visual indicator may be a plurality of resilient
filaments which pass through a hole in a tab portion of the marker body at the upper end
thereof, the filaments being folded about the tab portion and secured to the tab portion
using a heat-shrink tube. In an exemplary embodiment, the filaments extend about six
15 inches from the marker body and are brightly colored. Multiple trackers can be used to
mark the path of a buried utility. Due to the resilient and durable nature of the filaments,
they are resistant to wear and tear and the elements. The visual indication, along with the
ability to electronically detect the marker, provides a tracker with superior locating
capability.